

Insight:

# Where variables & methods live?

*Unlike other programming languages, ruby classes don't have class properties.  
Instance variables just spring into existence when they are assigned a value.  
Class instance variables reside in objects, methods in the class of the object.*

# Where instance variables reside?

```
class MyClass
  attr_reader :foo, :bar

  def initialize
    @foo = "foo"

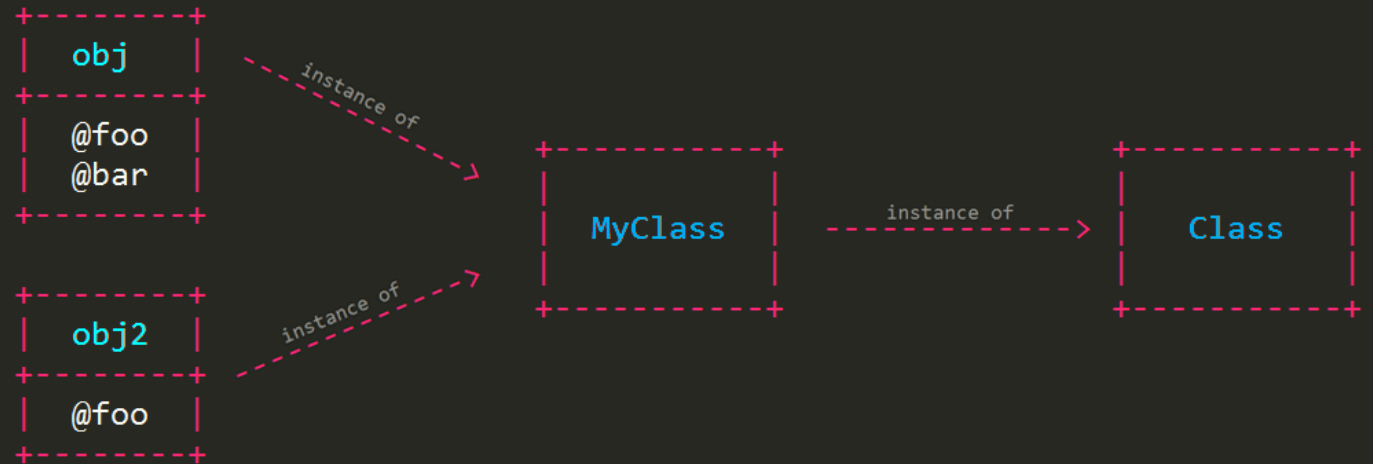
  def big_bang
    @bar = "bar"
  end
end
```

```
obj = MyClass.new
obj2 = MyClass.new
```

```
obj.foo          # "foo"
obj.bar          # nil
obj.instance_variables # [:@foo]
```

```
obj.big_bang
```

```
obj.bar          # "bar"
obj.instance_variables # [:@foo, :@bar]
obj2.instance_variables # [:@foo]
```



# Where class instance variables reside?

```
class MyClass
  @foo = "class instance variable"

  def initialize
    @bar = "instance variable"
  end
end
```

```
obj = MyClass.new
```



# Quick recap:

- Instance variables in classes are only created when they are explicitly assigned to a value
- Instance variables live in the corresponding objects, not classes
- Ruby classes do not have predefined class properties. Each instance of a class may have its' own set of variables.

# Where methods reside?

```
class MyClass
  def foo
    "foo"
  end
end
```

```
obj = MyClass.new
```

```
obj.methods - Object.new.methods      # [:foo]
MyClass.instance_methods(false)       # [:foo]
```

```
class MyClass
  def bar
    "bar"
  end
end
```

```
obj.methods - Object.new.methods      # [:foo, :bar]
```



# Where class/eigenclass/static methods live?

```
class MyClass
  def foo
  end

  def self.bar
  end

  class << self
    def baz
    end
  end
end

obj = MyClass.new
```



# Where singleton methods live?

```
class MyClass
  def foo
    "foo"
  end
end
```

```
obj1 = MyClass.new
obj2 = MyClass.new
```

```
def obj1.baz
  "baz"
end
```

```
obj1.foo
obj2.foo
```

```
obj1.baz
obj2.baz
```

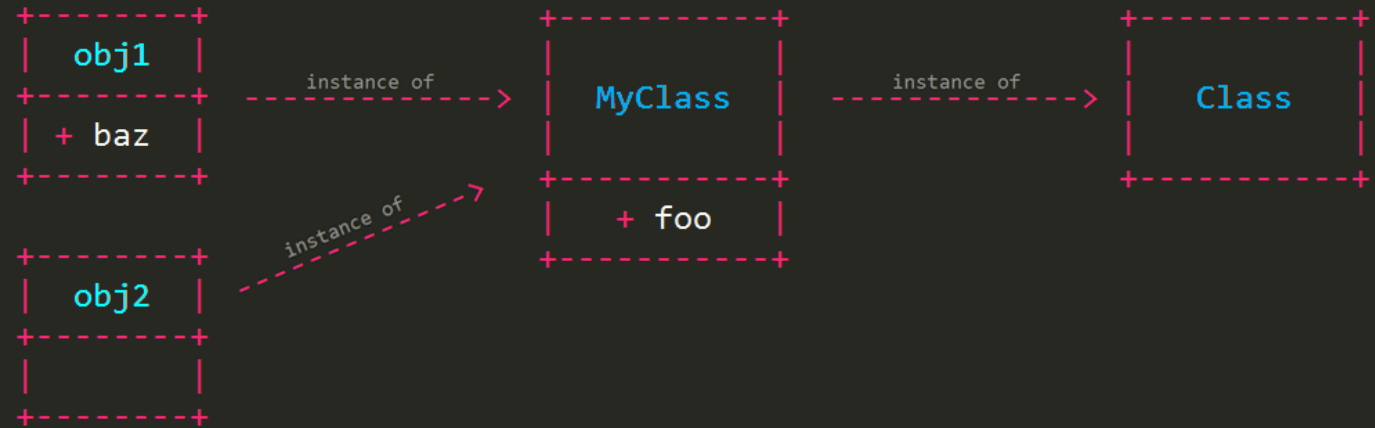
```
methods_inherited_from_object = Object.instance_methods
```

```
obj2.methods - methods_inherited_from_object
obj1.methods - methods_inherited_from_object
```

```
# "foo"
# "foo"
```

```
# "baz"
# NoMethodError: undefined method `baz' for #<MyClass:0x007f9...
```

```
# []
# [:baz]
```



# Quick recap:

- Methods live in classes
- Static/class/eigenclass methods live in eigenclass of the class
- Singleton methods reside in objects



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Class instance variables reside in objects and methods in the class of the object.*